Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code

## TITLE I

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

## CHAPTER 2

Rights and obligations of persons with regard to the customs legislation

## Section 1

## Provision of information

## Subsection 1

Formats and codes of common data requirements, data-exchange and storage

# I<sup>F1</sup>Article 2

## Formats and codes for common data requirements(Article 6(2) of the Code)

- The formats and codes for the common data requirements referred to in Article 6(2) of the Code and in Article 2 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 for the exchange and storage of information required for applications and decisions are set out in Annex A to this Regulation.
- 2 The formats and codes for the common data requirements referred to in Article 6(2) of the Code and in Article 2 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 for the exchange and storage of information required for declarations, notifications and proof of customs status are set out in Annex B to this Regulation.
- By way of derogation from paragraph 1 of this Article, until the date of deployment of the first phase of the upgrading of the Binding Tariff Information ('BTI') system and the Surveillance 2 system referred to in the Annex to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578<sup>(1)</sup>, the formats and codes provided for in Annex A to this Regulation in relation with BTI applications and decisions shall not apply and the formats and codes set out in Annexes 2 to 5 to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341<sup>(2)</sup> shall apply.

By way of derogation from paragraph 1 of this Article, until the date of the upgrading of the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) system referred to in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578, the formats and codes provided for in Annex A to this Regulation in relation with AEO applications and authorisations shall not apply and the formats and codes set out in Annexes 6 and 7 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341 shall apply.

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By way of derogation from paragraph 2 of this Article, for the IT systems listed in Annex 1 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341, until the respective dates of deployment or the upgrading of the relevant IT systems referred to in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578, the formats and codes of the common data requirements set out in Annex B to this Regulation shall not apply.

For the IT systems listed in Annex 1 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341, until the respective dates of deployment or the upgrading of the relevant IT systems referred to in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578, the exchange and storage of information required for declarations, notifications and proof of customs status shall be subject to the formats and codes set out in Annex 9 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341.

- 5 Until the date of deployment of the UCC Customs Decisions system referred to in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578, customs authorities may decide that formats and codes other than those laid down in Annex A to this Regulation are to apply in respect of the following applications and authorisations:
  - a applications and authorisations relating to the simplification for the determination of amounts being part of the customs value of the goods;
  - b applications and authorisations relating to comprehensive guarantees;
  - c applications and authorisations for deferred payment;
  - d applications and authorisations for the operation of temporary storage facilities as referred to in Article 148 of the Code;
  - e applications and authorisations for regular shipping services;
  - f applications and authorisations for authorised issuer;
  - g applications and authorisations for the status of authorised weigher of bananas;
  - h applications and authorisations for self-assessment:
  - i applications and authorisations for the status of authorised consignee for TIR operations;
  - j applications and authorisations for the status of authorised consignor for Union transit;
  - k applications and authorisations for the status of authorised consignee for Union transit;
  - 1 applications and authorisations for the use of seals of a special type;
  - m applications and authorisations for the use of a transit declaration with reduced dataset;
  - n applications and authorisations for the use of an electronic transport document as customs declaration.
- 6 Until the date of deployment of the UCC Customs Decisions system, customs authorities may allow the formats and codes of the data requirements for applications and authorisations set out in Annex 12 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341 to be used instead of the data requirements laid down in Annex A to this Regulation for the following applications and authorisations:
  - a applications and authorisations for the use of simplified declaration;
  - b applications and authorisations for centralised clearance;
  - c applications and authorisations for entry of data in the declarant's records;
  - d applications and authorisations for the use of inward processing;
  - e applications and authorisations for the use of outward processing;
  - f applications and authorisations for the use of end use;
  - g applications and authorisations for the use of temporary admission;
  - h applications and authorisations for the operation of storage facilities for customs warehousing;

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Notwithstanding paragraph 6, until the dates of deployment of the UCC Automated Export System (AES) or of the upgrading of the National Import Systems referred to in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578, where an application for an authorisation is based on a customs declaration in accordance with Article 163(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446, the formats and codes set out in Annex 12 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341 shall apply in respect of the additional data elements required for that application.]

## **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/989 of 8 June 2017 correcting and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code.

## Article 3

## Security of electronic systems(Article 16(1) of the Code)

- When developing, maintaining and employing electronic systems referred to in Article 16(1) of the Code the Member States shall establish and maintain adequate security arrangements for the effective, reliable and secure operation of the various systems. They shall also ensure that measures are in place for checking the source of data and for protecting data against the risk of unauthorised access, loss, alteration or destruction.
- 2 Each input, modification and deletion of data shall be recorded together with information giving the reason for, and exact time of, such processing and identifying the person who carried it out.
- 3 The Member States shall inform each other, the Commission and, where appropriate, the economic operator concerned of all actual or suspected breaches of security of the electronic systems.

## Article 4

## **Storage of data(Article 16(1) of the Code)**

All data validated by the relevant electronic system shall be kept for at least 3 years from the end of the year in which such data was validated, unless otherwise specified.

## Article 5

# Availability of electronic systems(Article 16(1) of the Code)

- 1 The Commission and the Member States shall conclude operational agreements laying down the practical requirements for the availability and performance of the electronic systems as well as for business continuity.
- 2 Operational agreements referred to in paragraph 1 shall in particular lay down appropriate response time for the exchange and processing of information in the relevant electronic systems.

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- The electronic systems shall be kept permanently available. However, that obligation shall not apply:
  - in specific cases related to the use of the electronic systems laid down in the agreements referred to in paragraph 1 or, at national level, in the absence of those agreements;
  - in the case of *force majeure*.

## Subsection 2

# Registration of persons

# F2 Article 6

# **Competent customs authority(Article 9 of the Code)**

## **Textual Amendments**

Art. 6 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2A) (as inserted by S.I. 2020/1379, regs. 1(3), 5(1)); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

## Article 7

## Electronic system relating to EORI number(Article 16 of the Code)

<sup>F3</sup> 1	
2	Only one EORI number shall be assigned in respect of each person.
3 12-01.	The format and codes of the data stored in the EORI system are laid down in Annex
<sup>F4</sup> 4	
<sup>F5</sup> 5	

## **Textual Amendments**

- Art. 7(1) revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2A)** (as inserted by S.I. 2020/1379, regs. 1(3), **5(1)**); 2020 c. 1, **Sch.** 5 para. 1(1)
- F4 Art. 7(4) revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2A)** (as inserted by S.I. 2020/1379, regs. 1(3), **5(1)**); 2020 c. 1, Sch.
- Art. 7(5) revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2A)** (as inserted by S.I. 2020/1379, regs. 1(3), **5(1)**); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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## Section 2

## Decisions relating to the application of customs legislation

## Subsection 1

## Decisions taken by the customs authorities

#### Article 8

## General procedure for the right to be heard(Article 22(6) of the Code)

- 1 The communication referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 22(6) of the Code shall:
  - a include a reference to the documents and information on which the customs authorities intend to base their decision;
  - b indicate the period within which the person concerned shall express his point of view from the date on which he receives that communication or is deemed to have received it;
  - c include a reference to the right of the person concerned to have access to the documents and information referred to in point (a) in accordance with the applicable provisions.
- Where the person concerned gives his point of view before the expiry of the period referred to in paragraph 1(b) the customs authorities may proceed with taking the decision unless the person concerned simultaneously expresses his intention to further express his point of view within the period prescribed.

## Article 9

## Specific procedure for the right to be heard(Article 22(6) of the Code)

- 1 The customs authorities may make the communication referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 22(6) of the Code as part of the process of verification or control where they intend to take a decision on the basis of any of the following:
  - a the results of a verification following presentation of the goods;
  - b the results of a verification of the customs declaration as referred to in Article 191 of the Code;
  - the results of post-release control as referred to in Article 48 of the Code, where the goods are still under customs supervision;
  - d the results of a verification of proof of the customs status of Union goods or, where applicable, the results of verification of the application for the registration of such proof or for the endorsement of such proof;
  - e the issuing of a proof of origin by the customs authorities;
  - f the results of control of goods for which no summary declaration, temporary storage declaration, re-export declaration or customs declaration was lodged.
- Where a communication is made in accordance with paragraph 1 the person concerned may:
  - a immediately express his point of view by the same means as those used for the communication in accordance with Article 9 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446; or

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b demand a communication in accordance with Article 8 except in the cases referred to in paragraph 1(f).

The person concerned shall be informed by the customs authorities of those two options.

Where the customs authorities take a decision adversely affecting the person concerned, they shall record whether that person has expressed his point of view in accordance with paragraph 2(a).

## Subsection 2

# Decisions taken upon application

## Article 10

## Electronic systems relating to decisions(Article 16(1) of the Code)

1 For the exchange and storage of information pertaining to applications and decisions which may have an impact in more than one Member State and to any subsequent event which may affect the original application or decision, an electronic system set up for those purposes pursuant to Article 16(1) of the Code shall be used.

Information shall be made available through that system by the competent customs authority without delay and at the latest within 7 days of the authority gaining knowledge of the information.

- 2 An EU harmonised trader interface designed by the Commission and the Member States in agreement with each other shall be used for the exchange of information pertaining to applications and decisions which may have an impact in more than one Member State.
- Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be applicable from the date of deployment of the UCC Customs Decisions system as referred to in the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/255/EU.

## Article 11

# Customs authority designated to receive applications(Third subparagraph of Article 22(1) of the Code)

Member States shall communicate to the Commission a list of the customs authorities referred to in the third subparagraph of Article 22(1) of the Code designated to receive applications. Member States shall also communicate to the Commission any subsequent changes to that list.

# Article 12

# Acceptance of the application(Article 22(2) of the Code)

Where the customs authority accepts an application pursuant to Article 11(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446, the date of acceptance of that application shall be the date on which all the information required in accordance with the second subparagraph of [FI Article 22(2)] of the Code was received by the customs authority.

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Where the customs authority establishes that the application does not contain all the information required, it shall ask the applicant to provide the relevant information within a reasonable time limit which shall not exceed 30 days.

Where the applicant does not provide the information requested by the customs authorities within the period set by them for that purpose, the application shall not be accepted and the applicant shall be notified accordingly.

In the absence of any communication to the applicant in relation to whether the application has been accepted or not, that application shall be deemed to be accepted. The date of the acceptance shall be the date of submission of the application or, in those cases where additional information has been provided by the applicant following a request of the customs authority as referred to in paragraph 2, the date when the last piece of information has been provided.

## **Textual Amendments**

**F1** Substituted by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/989 of 8 June 2017 correcting and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code.

## Article 13

## Storage of information relating to decisions(Article 23(5) of the Code)

The [F6Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs] shall retain all data and supporting information which was relied upon when [F7taking a] decision for at least 3 years after the end date of its validity.

## **Textual Amendments**

- **F6** Words in Art. 13 substituted (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(a)(i); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F7 Words in Art. 13 substituted (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(a)(ii); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

## Article 14

# Consultation between the customs authorities(Article 22 of the Code)

Where a customs authority competent to take a decision needs to consult a customs authority of another Member State concerned about the fulfilment of the necessary conditions and criteria for taking a favourable decision, that consultation shall take place within the period prescribed for the decision concerned. The customs authority competent to take a decision shall establish a time-limit for the consultation that starts from the date of communication by that customs authority of the conditions and criteria which need to be examined by the consulted customs authority.

Where, following the examination referred to in the first subparagraph, the consulted customs authority establishes that the applicant does not fulfil one or more of the

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conditions and criteria for taking a favourable decision, the results, duly documented and justified, shall be transmitted to the customs authority competent to take the decision.

- The time-limit established for the consultation in accordance with paragraph 1 may be extended by the customs authority competent to take the decision in any of the following cases:
  - where due to the nature of the examinations to be performed the consulted authority requests more time;
  - where the applicant carries out adjustments in order to ensure the fulfilment of the conditions and criteria referred to in paragraph 1 and communicates them to the customs authority competent to take the decision, which shall inform the consulted customs authority accordingly.
- Where the consulted customs authority does not respond within the time-limit established for the consultation in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2, the conditions and criteria for which the consultation took place are deemed to be fulfilled.
- The consultation procedure laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 may also be applied for the purposes of re-assessment and monitoring of a decision.

## Article 15

## Revocation of a favourable decision(Article 28 of the Code)

A decision suspended in accordance with Article 16(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 shall be revoked by the customs authority competent to take a decision in cases referred to in Article 16(1)(b) and (c) of that Regulation, where the holder of the decision fails to take, within the prescribed period of time, the necessary measures to fulfil the conditions laid down for the decision or to comply with the obligations imposed under that decision.

## Subsection 3

## Decisions relating to binding information

## Article 16

## Application for a decision relating to binding information(Article 22(1) of the Code)

Where an application for a decision relating to binding information is submitted pursuant to Article 19(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 in another Member State than the one in which the applicant is established the customs authority to which the application was submitted shall notify the customs authority of the Member State where the applicant is established within 7 days from the acceptance of the application.

Where the customs authority that receives the notification holds any information that it considers relevant for the processing of the application, it shall transmit such information to the customs authority to which the application was submitted as soon as possible and at the latest within 30 days from the date of the notification.

An application for a binding tariff information (BTI) decision shall relate only to goods which have similar characteristics and between which the differences are irrelevant for the purposes of their tariff classification.

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 2 Subsection 3

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- An application for a binding origin information (BOI) decision shall relate to only one type of goods and one set of circumstances for the determination of origin.
- For the purposes of ensuring compliance with the requirement set out in point (a) of the second subparagraph of Article 33(1) of the Code in relation to an application for a BTI decision, the customs authority referred to in Article 19(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 shall consult the electronic system referred to in Article 21 of this Regulation and keep a record of such consultations.

## Article 17

# Consistency with existing BTI decisions(Article 22(3) of the Code)

The customs authority competent to take a decision shall, for the purposes of ensuring that a BTI decision which it intends to issue is consistent with BTI decisions that have already been issued, consult the electronic system referred to in Article 21 and keep a record of such consultations.

## Article 18

## Notification of BOI decisions(Article 6(3) of the Code)

- Where, the customs authority competent to take the decision notifies the applicant of the BOI decision using means other than electronic data-processing techniques, it shall do so using the form set out in Annex 12-02.
- Where the customs authority competent to take the decision notifies the applicant of the BOI decision using electronic data-processing techniques, that decision shall be printable in accordance with the format set out in Annex 12-02.

## Article 19

# Exchange of data relating to BOI decisions(Article 23(5) of the Code)

- 1 The customs authorities shall transmit to the Commission the relevant details of the BOI decisions on a quarterly basis.
- The Commission shall make the details obtained in accordance with paragraph 1 available to the customs authorities of all Member States.

# Article 20

# Monitoring of BTI decisions(Article 23(5) of the Code)

When customs formalities are being fulfilled by or on behalf of the holder of a BTI decision in respect of goods covered by the BTI decision, this shall be indicated in the customs declaration by stating the BTI decision reference number.

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## Article 21

# Electronic system relating to BTI(Articles 16(1) and 23(5) of the Code)

- [F81] The criterion laid down in Article 39(a) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled if,
  - a there is no decision taken by an administrative or judicial authority concluding that one of the persons described in point (b) has committed, over the last three years, a serious or repeated infringements of customs legislation or taxation rules in relation to his-her economic activity; and
  - b none of the following persons has a record of serious criminal offence in relation to his/ her economic activity including the applicant's economic activity, where applicable:
    - (i) the applicant,
    - (ii) the employee(s) in charge of the applicant's customs matters, and
    - (iii) the person(s) in charge of the applicant or exercising control over its management.]
- 2 In addition to the information referred to in paragraph 1:
  - a the surveillance referred to in Article 55 of this Regulation shall include data that are relevant for monitoring the usage of BTI decisions;
  - b the customs authority that has received the application and has taken the BTI decision shall notify through the system referred to in paragraph 1 if a period of extended use of the BTI decision is granted, indicating the end date of the period of extended use and the quantities of the goods covered by this period.
- [F83] Where the person referred to in paragraph 1(b) (iii), other than the applicant is established or has his/her residence in a third country, the customs authority competent to take the decision shall assess the fulfilment of the criterion referred to in Article 39(a) of the Code on the basis of the records and information that are available to it.]
- 4 An EU harmonised trader interface designed by the Commission and the Member States in agreement with each other shall be used for the exchange of information pertaining to applications and decisions related to BTI.
- When processing an application for a BTI decision, the customs authorities shall indicate the status of the application in the system referred to in paragraph 1.
- By derogation from paragraph 1 of this Article, until the date of the upgrading of the system referred to therein in accordance with the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/255/EU, Member States shall use the central database of the Commission set up by Article 8(3) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93<sup>(3)</sup>.
- Until the date of deployment of the first phase of the upgrading of the system referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the system referred to in Article 56 of this Regulation, the customs authorities shall carry out the monitoring of the usage of BTI decisions when conducting customs controls or post-release controls in accordance with Articles 46 and 48 of the Code. By derogation from paragraph 3 of this Article, until that date of deployment, the Commission shall not be obliged to communicate results of the monitoring referred to in point (a) of paragraph 2 of this Article to the Member States.

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## **Textual Amendments**

**F8** Substituted by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1727 of 18 November 2020 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 as regards certain rules on Authorised Economic Operators.

## Article 22

# Extended use of decisions relating to binding information(Article 34(9) of the Code)

- Where the customs authorities decide to grant a period of extended use in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 34(9) of the Code, they shall specify the date on which the period of extended use of the decision concerned expires.
- Where the customs authorities decide to grant a period of extended use of a BTI decision in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 34(9) of the Code, they shall specify, in addition to the date referred to in paragraph 1, the quantities of the goods that may be cleared during the period of extended use.

The use of a decision for which a period of extended use has been granted shall cease as soon as those quantities are reached.

On the basis of the surveillance referred to in Article 55, the Commission shall inform the Member States as soon as those quantities have been reached.

## Article 23

# Actions to ensure the correct and uniform tariff classification or determination of origin(Article 34(10) of the Code)

- 1 The Commission shall, without delay, notify the customs authorities of the suspension of the taking of BTI and BOI decisions in accordance with Article 34(10)(a) of the Code where:
  - a the Commission has identified incorrect or non-uniform decisions;
  - b the customs authorities have submitted to the Commission cases where they failed to resolve, within a maximum period of 90 days, their differences of opinion with regard to the correct and uniform classification or determination of origin.

No decision related to binding information shall be issued for goods subject to point (a) or (b) from the date when the Commission has notified the customs authorities of the suspension until the correct and uniform classification or determination of origin is ensured.

- 2 The correct and uniform classification or determination of origin shall be subject to consultation at Union level at the earliest opportunity and at the latest within 120 days of the Commission notification referred to in paragraph 1.
- 3 The Commission shall notify the customs authorities immediately once the suspension is withdrawn.
- For the purposes of applying paragraphs 1 to 3, BOI decisions shall be deemed to be non-uniform where they confer different origin on goods which:

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 3

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- a fall under the same tariff heading and whose origin was determined in accordance with the same origin rules; and
- b have been obtained under identical conditions using the same manufacturing process and equivalent materials as regards notably their originating or non-originating status.

## Section 3

# Authorised economic operator

## Article 24

# Compliance(Article 39(a) of the Code)

Where the applicant is a natural person, the criterion laid down in Article 39(a) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled if, over the last 3 years, the applicant and where applicable the employee in charge of the applicant's customs matters have not committed any serious infringement or repeated infringements of customs legislation and taxation rules and have had no record of serious criminal offences relating to their economic activity.

Where the applicant is not a natural person, the criterion laid down in Article 39(a) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled where, over the last 3 years, none of the following persons has committed a serious infringement or repeated infringements of customs legislation and taxation rules or has had a record of serious criminal offences relating to his economic activity:

- a the applicant;
- b the person in charge of the applicant or exercising control over its management;
- c the employee in charge of the applicant's customs matters.
- However, the criterion referred to in Article 39(a) of the Code may be considered to be fulfilled where the customs authority competent to take the decision [F9(namely, in this Regulation, the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)] considers an infringement to be of minor importance, in relation to the number or size of the related operations, and the customs authority has no doubt as to the good faith of the applicant.
- Where the person referred to in paragraph 1(b) is established or has his residence in a third country, the customs authority competent to take the decision shall assess the fulfilment of the criterion referred to in Article 39(a) of the Code on the basis of records and information that are available to it.
- Where the applicant has been established for less than 3 years, the customs authority competent to take the decision shall assess the fulfilment of the criterion referred to in Article 39(a) of the Code on the basis of the records and information that are available to it.

# **Textual Amendments**

F9 Words in Art. 24(2) inserted (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(b); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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## Article 25

# Satisfactory system of managing commercial and transport records(Article 39(b) of the Code)

- 1 The criterion laid down in Article 39(b) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled if the following conditions are met:
  - a the applicant maintains an accounting system which is consistent with the generally accepted accounting principles applied in the [F10United Kingdom], allows audit-based customs control and maintains a historical record of data that provides an audit trail from the moment the data enters the file;
  - b records kept by the applicant for customs purposes are integrated in the accounting system of the applicant or allow cross checks of information with the accounting system to be made;
  - c the applicant allows the customs authority physical access to its accounting systems and, where applicable, to its commercial and transport records;
  - d the applicant allows the customs authority electronic access to its accounting systems and, where applicable, to its commercial and transport records where those systems or records are kept electronically;
  - e the applicant has a logistical system which identifies goods as Union or non-Union goods and indicates, where appropriate, their location;
  - f the applicant has an administrative organisation which corresponds to the type and size of business and which is suitable for the management of the flow of goods, and has internal controls capable of preventing, detecting and correcting errors and of preventing and detecting illegal or irregular transactions;
  - g where applicable, the applicant has satisfactory procedures in place for the handling of licences and authorisations granted in accordance with commercial policy measures or relating to trade in agricultural products;
  - h the applicant has satisfactory procedures in place for the archiving of its records and information and for protection against the loss of information;
  - i the applicant ensures that relevant employees are instructed to inform the customs authorities whenever compliance difficulties are discovered and establishes procedures for informing the customs authorities of such difficulties;
  - j the applicant has appropriate security measures in place to protect the applicant's computer system from unauthorised intrusion and to secure the applicant's documentation;
  - k where applicable, the applicant has satisfactory procedures in place for the handling of import and export licences connected to prohibitions and restrictions, including measures to distinguish goods subject to the prohibitions or restrictions from other goods and measures to ensure compliance with those prohibitions and restrictions.
- Where the applicant applies only for an authorisation as an economic operator authorised for security and safety as referred to in Article 38(2)(b) of the Code (AEOS), [F11] as distinct from pursuant to provision made by or under the Taxation (Cross-border Trade) Act 2018,] the requirement laid down in paragraph 1(e) shall not apply.

## **Textual Amendments**

**F10** Words in Art. 25(1)(a) substituted (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(c); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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F11 Words in Art. 25(2) inserted (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(d); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

## Article 26

# Financial solvency(Article 39(c) of the Code)

- 1 The criterion laid down in Article 39(c) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled where the applicant complies with the following:
  - a the applicant is not subject to bankruptcy proceedings;
  - b during the last 3 years preceding the submission of the application, the applicant has fulfilled his financial obligations regarding payments of customs duties and all other duties, taxes or charges which are collected on or in connection with the import or export of goods;
  - c the applicant demonstrates on the basis of the records and information available for the last 3 years preceding the submission of the application that he has sufficient financial standing to meet his obligations and fulfil his commitments having regard to the type and volume of the business activity, including having no negative net assets, unless where they can be covered.
- 2 If the applicant has been established for less than 3 years, his financial solvency as referred to in Article 39(c) of the Code shall be checked on the basis of records and information that are available.

## Article 27

# Practical standards of competence or professional qualifications(Article 39(d) of the Code)

- 1 The criterion laid down in Article 39(d) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled if any of the following conditions are met:
  - a the applicant or the person in charge of the applicant's customs matters complies with one of the following practical standards of competence:
    - (i) a proven practical experience of a minimum of 3 years in customs matters;
    - (ii) a quality standard concerning customs matters adopted by a European Standardisation body;
  - b the applicant or the person in charge of the applicant's customs matters has successfully completed training covering customs legislation consistent with and relevant to the extent of his involvement in customs related activities, provided by any of the following:
    - (i) a customs authority of a Member State;
    - (ii) an educational establishment recognised, for the purposes of providing such qualification, by the customs authorities or a body of a Member State responsible for professional training;
    - (iii) a professional or trade association recognised by the customs authorities of a Member State or accredited in the Union, for the purposes of providing such qualification.

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Where the person in charge of the applicant's customs matters is a contracted person, the criterion laid down in Article 39(d) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled if the contracted person is an economic operator authorised for customs simplifications as referred to in Article 38(2)(a) of the Code (AEOC).

## Article 28

# Security and safety standards(Article 39(e) of the Code)

- 1 The criterion laid down in Article 39(e) of the Code shall be considered to be fulfilled if the following conditions are met:
  - a buildings to be used in connection with the operations relating to the AEOS authorisation provide protection against unlawful intrusion and are constructed of materials which resist unlawful entry;
  - b appropriate measures are in place to prevent unauthorised access to offices, shipping areas, loading docks, cargo areas and other relevant places;
  - c measures for the handling of goods have been taken which include protection against the unauthorised introduction or exchange, the mishandling of goods and against tampering with cargo units;
  - d the applicant has taken measures allowing to clearly identify his business partners and to ensure, through implementation of appropriate contractual arrangements or other appropriate measures in accordance with the applicant's business model, that those business partners ensure the security of their part of the international supply chain;
  - e the applicant conducts in so far as national law permits, security screening on prospective employees working in security sensitive positions and carries out background checks of current employees in such positions periodically and where warranted by circumstances;
  - f the applicant has appropriate security procedures in place for any external service providers contracted;
  - g the applicant ensures that its staff having responsibilities relevant for security issues regularly participate in programmes to raise their awareness of those security issues;
  - h the applicant has appointed a contact person competent for safety and security related questions.
- Where the applicant is a holder of a security and safety certificate issued on the basis of an international convention or of an International Standard of the International Organisation for Standardisation, or of a European Standard of a European standardisation body, these certificates shall be taken into account when checking compliance with the criteria laid down in Article 39(e) of the Code.

The criteria shall be deemed to be met to the extent that it is established that the criteria for issuing that certificate are identical or equivalent to those laid down in Article 39(e) of the Code.

The criteria shall be deemed to be met where the applicant is the holder of a security and safety certificate issued by a third country with which the Union has concluded an agreement which provides for the recognition of that certificate.

Where the applicant is a regulated agent or a known consignor as defined in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>(4)</sup> and fulfils the requirements laid down in Commission Regulation (EU) No 185/2010<sup>(5)</sup>, the criteria laid down in paragraph 1 shall be deemed to be met in relation to the sites and the operations for

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which the applicant obtained the status of regulated agent or known consignor to the extent that the criteria for issuing the regulated agent or known consignor status are identical or equivalent to those laid down in Article 39(e) of the Code.

## Article 29

# **Examination of the criteria**(Article 22 of the Code)

For the purposes of examining the criteria laid down in Article 39(b) and (e) of the Code, the customs authority competent to take the decision shall ensure that on-the-spot verifications are carried out at all the premises that are relevant to the customs related activities of the applicant.

Where the applicant has a large number of premises, and the applicable time-limit for taking the decision does not allow for examination of all those premises the customs authority may decide to examine only a representative proportion of those premises if it is satisfied that the applicant applies the same security and safety standards at all of its premises and apply the same common standards and procedures for maintaining its records at all of its premises.

- The customs authorities competent to take a decision may take into consideration the results of assessments or audits carried out in accordance with <sup>F12</sup>... legislation to the extent they are relevant for the examination of the criteria referred to in Article 39 of the Code.
- For the purposes of examining whether the criteria laid down in Article 39(b), (c) and (e) of the Code are fulfilled, the customs authorities may take into account expert conclusions provided by the applicant, where the expert having drawn up the conclusions is not related to the applicant within the meaning of Article 127 of this Regulation.
- The customs authorities shall take due account of the specific characteristics of economic operators, in particular of small and medium-sized enterprises, when examining the fulfilment of criteria laid down in Article 39 of the Code.
- The examination of the criteria laid down in Article 39 of the Code as well as its results shall be documented by the customs authority competent to take the decision.

## **Textual Amendments**

F12 Word in Art. 29(2) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(e); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

## Article 30

# Electronic system relating to the AEO status(Article 16(1) of the Code)

For the exchange and storage of information pertaining to applications for an authorisation as an authorised economic operator (AEO) and AEO authorisations granted and any further event or act which may subsequently affect the original decision, including annulment, suspension, revocation or amendment or the results of any monitoring or reassessment, an electronic system set up for those purposes pursuant to Article 16(1) of the Code shall be used. The competent customs authority shall make information available through this system without delay and at the latest within 7 days.

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An EU harmonised trader interface designed by the Commission and the Member States in agreement with each other shall be used for the exchange of information pertaining to applications and decisions related to AEO authorisations.

- Where applicable, in particular when AEO status is a basis for the grant of approval, authorisations or facilitations under other <sup>F13</sup>... legislation, the <sup>F14</sup>... customs authority may grant access to the electronic system referred to in paragraph 1 to the appropriate <sup>F15</sup>... authority responsible for civil aviation security. The access shall be related to the following information:
  - a the AEOS authorisations, including the name of the holder of the authorisation and, where applicable, their amendment or revocation or the suspension of the status of authorised economic operator and the reasons therefor;
  - b any re-assessments of AEOS authorisations and the results thereof.

The F15... authorities responsible for civil aviation security handling the information concerned shall use it only for the purposes of the relevant programmes for regulated agent or known consignor and shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security of this information.

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## **Textual Amendments**

- **F13** Word in Art. 30(2) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(f)(i); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F14 Word in Art. 30(2) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(f)(ii); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F15 Word in Art. 30(2) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(3)(f)(iii); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F16 Art. 30(3) revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

# Article 31

# Consultation procedure and exchange of information between customs authorities(Article 22 of the Code)

- 1 The customs authority competent to take the decision may consult customs authorities of other Member States which are competent for the place where necessary information is held or where checks have to be carried out for the purpose of examining one or more criteria laid down in Article 39 of the Code.
- 2 The consultation referred to in paragraph 1 shall be mandatory, where:
  - a the application for the status of AEO is submitted in accordance with Article 12(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446, to the customs authority of the place where the applicant's main accounts for customs purposes are held or are accessible;
  - b the application for the status of AEO is submitted in accordance with Article 27 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446, to the customs authorities of the Member State where the applicant has a permanent business establishment and where the information about its general logistical management activities in the Union is kept or is accessible;
  - c a part of the records and documentation of relevance for the application for the status of AEO is kept in a Member State other than the one of the customs authority competent to take a decision;

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 3

Document Generated: 2024-06-19

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- d the applicant for the status of AEO maintains a storage facility or has other customsrelated activities in a Member State other than the one of the competent customs authority.
- By way of derogation from the time-limit laid down in the second sentence of the first subparagraph of Article 14(1) of this Regulation, the customs authorities shall complete the consultation process within 80 days from the date on which the customs authority competent to take the decision communicates the necessary conditions and criteria which have to be examined by the consulted customs authority.
- Where the customs authority of another Member State has information of relevance for the granting of AEO status, it shall communicate that information to the customs authority competent to take a decision within 30 days starting from the date of the communication of the application through the electronic system referred to in Article 30 of this Regulation.

## Article 32

# Rejection of an application(Article 22 of the Code)

The rejection of an AEO application shall not affect existing favourable decisions taken with regard to the applicant in accordance with the customs legislation, unless the granting of those favourable decisions is based on the fulfilment of any of the AEO criteria that have been proven not to be met during the examination of the AEO application.

## Article 33

# Combination of both types of authorisations(Article 38(3) of the Code)

Where an applicant is entitled to be granted both an AEOC and an AEOS authorisation, the customs authority competent to take the decision shall issue one combined authorisation

## Article 34

# Revocation of an authorisation(Article 28 of the Code)

- 1 The revocation of an AEO authorisation shall not affect any favourable decision which has been taken with regard to the same person unless AEO status was a condition for that favourable decision, or that decision was based on a criterion listed in Article 39 of the Code which is no longer met.
- 2 The revocation or amendment of a favourable decision which has been taken with regard to the holder of the authorisation shall not automatically affect the AEO authorisation of that person.
- Where the same person is both an AEOC and an AEOS, and Article 28 of the Code or Article 15 of this Regulation is applicable owing to the non-fulfilment of the conditions laid down in Article 39(d) of the Code, the AEOC authorisation shall be revoked and AEOS authorisation shall remain valid.

Where the same person is both an AEOS and an AEOC, and Article 28 of the Code or Article 15 of this Regulation is applicable owing to the non-fulfilment of the conditions

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laid down in Article 39(e) of the Code, the AEOS authorisation shall be revoked and AEOC authorisation shall remain valid.

## Article 35

# **Monitoring(Article 23(5) of the Code)**

- 1 The customs authorities of the Member States shall inform the competent customs authority without delay of any factors arising after the grant of the status of AEO which may influence its continuation or content.
- 2 The competent customs authority shall make available all relevant information at its disposal to the customs authorities of the other Member States where the AEO carries out customs-related activities.
- Where a customs authority revokes a favourable decision which has been taken on the basis of the status of AEO, it shall notify the customs authority which granted the status.
- Where the AEOS is a regulated agent or a known consignor as defined in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 and fulfils the requirements laid down in Regulation (EU) No 185/2010, the competent customs authority shall immediately make available to the appropriate national authority responsible for civil aviation security the following minimum information related to the AEO status which it has at its disposal:
  - a the AEOS authorisation, including the name of the holder of the authorisation and, where applicable, its amendment or revocation or the suspension of the status of authorised economic operator and the reasons therefor;
  - b information about whether the specific site concerned has been visited by customs authorities, the date of the last visit, and whether the visit took place with a view to the authorisation process, re-assessment or monitoring;
  - c any re-assessments of the AEOS authorisation and the results thereof.

The national customs authorities shall, in agreement with the appropriate national authority responsible for civil aviation security, establish detailed modalities for the exchange of any information which is not covered by the electronic system referred to in Article 30 of this Regulation.

The national authorities responsible for civil aviation security handling the information concerned shall use it only for the purposes of the relevant programmes for regulated agent or known consignor and shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the security of the information.

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 4 Subsection 2 Document Generated: 2024-06-19

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## Section 4

## Control of goods

## Subsection 1

## Customs controls and risk management

## Article 36

# Electronic system relating to risk management and customs controls(Article 16(1) of the Code)

- For the exchange and storage of information pertaining to the communication among the customs authorities of the Member States and the Commission of any risk-related information, an electronic system set up for those purposes pursuant to Article 16(1) of the Code ('customs risk management system') shall be used.
- The system mentioned in paragraph 1 shall also be used for communication between customs authorities and between customs authorities and the Commission in the implementation of common risk criteria and standards, common priority control areas, customs crisis management, the exchange of risk-related information and risk analysis results as referred to in Article 46(5) of the Code as well as the results of customs controls.

## Subsection 2

# Cabin and hold baggage transported by air

F17 Article 37

## **Transit flights(Article 49 of the Code)**

Textual Amendments		
	F17	Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit)
		Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

# F17 Article 38

Transit flights in business and tourist aircraft(Article 49 of the Code)

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 4 Subsection 2

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## **Textual Amendments**

**F17** Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2)**; 2020 c. 1, **Sch. 5 para. 1(1)** 

# F17Article 39

## **Inbound transfer flights(Article 49 of the Code)**

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## **Textual Amendments**

**F17** Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2)**; 2020 c. 1, **Sch. 5 para. 1(1)** 

# F17Article 40

# Outbound transfer flights(Article 49 of the Code)

## **Textual Amendments**

**F17** Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2)**; 2020 c. 1, **Sch. 5 para. 1(1)** 

# F17Article 41

# Transfer to a tourist or business aircraft(Article 49 of the Code)

## **Textual Amendments**

F17 Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

# F17Article 42

Transfers between airports on the territory of the same Member State(Article 49 of the Code)

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 4 Subsection 2

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## **Textual Amendments**

F17 Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

# F17Article 43

# Measures to prevent illegal transfer(Article 49 of the Code)

## **Textual Amendments**

**F17** Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), **5(2)**; 2020 c. 1, **Sch. 5 para. 1(1)** 

# F17Article 44

# Baggage tag(Article 49 of the Code)

# **Textual Amendments**

F17 Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

# F17 Article 45

# List of international Union airports(Article 49 of the Code)

## **Textual Amendments**

F17 Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

TITLE I CHAPTER 2 Section 4 Subsection 3

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## Subsection 3

# Baggage transported by sea

# F17Article 46

# Pleasure crafts(Article 49 of the Code)

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## **Textual Amendments**

F17 Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

# F17Article 47

# Transfer crossings(Article 49 of the Code)

## **Textual Amendments**

F17 Arts. 37-47 revoked (31.12.2020) by The Customs Safety and Security Procedures (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/715), regs. 1(2), 5(2); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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- (1) [F1Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/578 of 11 April 2016 establishing the Work Programme relating to the development and deployment of the electronic systems provided for in the Union Customs Code (OJ L 99, 15.4.2016, p. 6).]
- (2) [F1Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/341 of 17 December 2015 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards transitional rules for certain provisions of the Union Customs Code where the relevant electronic systems are not yet operational and amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 (OJ L 69, 15.3.2016, p. 1).]
- (3) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 of 2 July 1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code (OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1).
- (4) Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 on common rules in the field of civil aviation security and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2320/2002 (OJ L 97, 9.4.2008, p. 72).
- (5) Commission Regulation (EU) No 185/2010 of 4 March 2010 laying down detailed measures for the implementation of the common basic standards on aviation security (OJ L 55, 5.3.2010, p. 1).

## **Textual Amendments**

**F1** Substituted by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/989 of 8 June 2017 correcting and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code.

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## **Changes to legislation:**

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# Changes and effects yet to be applied to:

Recital 61 replacement by EUR 2017/989 Regulation